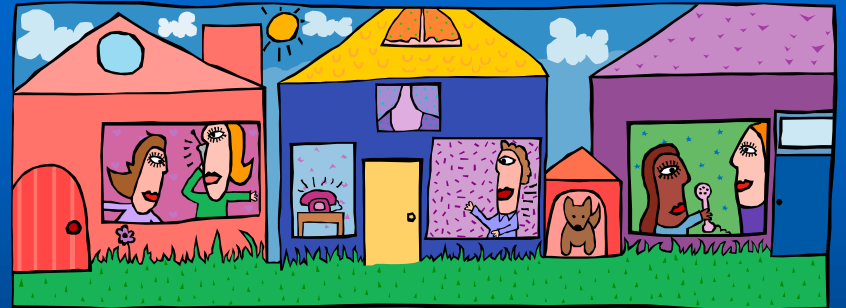


Children's Long-Term Support Waivers



Community Inclusion for Children with
Disabilities and their Families

Waivers and Federal Medicaid

- The Children's Waivers were approved by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) under the Medicaid rules that permit states to flexibly use Medicaid funds for community supports and services.



Waivers and Federal Medicaid

- These waivers are called home and community-based service (HCBS) waivers.
- The waivers give the State the flexibility to develop and implement creative alternatives to placing Medicaid-eligible individuals in hospitals, nursing facilities or intermediate care facilities for persons with mental retardation.

Waivers and Federal Medicaid

- The HCBS waiver program recognizes that many individuals at risk of being placed in these facilities can be cared for in their homes and communities, preserving their independence and ties to family and friends at a cost no higher than that of institutional care.

Waivers and Federal Medicaid

- States have the flexibility to design each waiver program and select the mix of waiver services to best meets the needs of the population they wish to serve.
- Wisconsin defined three eligible groups: physical disability, developmental disability and significant mental health.
- Wisconsin DHFS has a variety of services with the children's waivers.

Wisconsin's Criteria

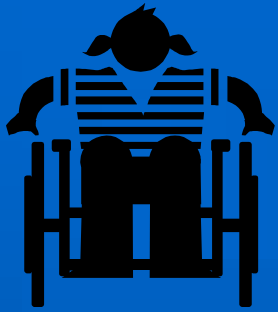


Eligibility:

- States may make HCBS available to individuals who would otherwise qualify for Medicaid if they were eligible to be in an institutional setting.
- The person must cost less in the community than in an institutional setting.

Wisconsin's Criteria

- HOSPITAL level of care is assigned to children who have a condition that requires continuous assessment, complex care, and the use of equipment to avert potential life-threatening problems. The severity of the child's overall condition is such that the plan of care changes frequently and requires ongoing comprehensive evaluations by a physician.



Wisconsin's Criteria

- NURSING HOME level of care is assigned when a child has a long term illness or physical disability which has reached a relatively stable status but continues to need basic medical and nursing services.
- The child's overall functional capacity is significantly diminished, interfering with the ability to perform age-appropriate activities of daily living in multiple areas.

Wisconsin's Criteria

- DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY level of care is assigned when a child has mental retardation or a developmental disability (DD) resulting in significant functional impairments, and require ongoing interventions to maximize the level of independent functioning. This includes children who have significant medical or behavioral needs in addition to DD.

Wisconsin's Criteria

- DD is a condition that is attributable to brain injury, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, Prader-Willi syndrome, mental retardation, or another neurological condition, other than mental illness, that results in impairment of general intellectual functioning, or adaptive behavior.

Wisconsin's Criteria

The child must have substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity;

- Self care
- Receptive and expressive
- Learning
- Mobility
- Self direction

Wisconsin's Criteria

- A PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL (SED) level of care is assigned when the intensity of the child's community mental health needs are of such severity as to put the child at risk for long term psychiatric hospitalization.
- The child has specific symptoms and functional impairments, which require a variety of comprehensive professional and community interventions.

Wisconsin's Criteria

The child meets **all** of the following:

- has an emotional disability, diagnosed by a board certified psychiatrist or clinical psychologist (Ph.D) under the classification of the American Psychiatric Assn. DSM-IV
- that has persisted at least 6 months*; **and**
- that same disability is expected to persist for a year or longer.

Wisconsin's Criteria

The child has at least one of the following symptoms:

- Psychotic Symptoms, Suicidal Behavior, Violent Behavior creating a risk for causing injury to persons or significant damage, or Anorexia Nervosa

OR

Wisconsin's Criteria

Significant functional Impairments in two of the following capacities, compared with expected developmental level:

- Functioning in self care
- Functioning in community
- Functioning in social relationships
- Functioning in the family
- Functioning at school or work

Wisconsin's Criteria

And the child is receiving services from two or more of the following service systems:

- Mental Health,
- Special Education related to emotional or behavioral needs,
- Juvenile Justice,
- Child Protective Services, or
- Social Services.

Services Under the Waiver

- Adaptive Aides
- Communication Aides
- Consumer Education and Training
- Consumer and Family Directed Supports
- Counseling and Therapeutic Resources
- Daily Living Skills

Services Under the Waiver

- Day Services, includes specialized child care
- Foster Care - Extraordinary expenses
- Home Modifications
- Intensive In-Home Autism Treatment Services
- Personal Emergency Response System

Services Under the Waiver

- Respite
- Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies
- Specialized Transportation
- Supportive Employment
- Supportive Home Care

Services Under the Waiver

Each service under the waiver must:

- meet the definition of the service,
- meet requirements for qualified providers,
- must not be an MA reimbursable service,
- have documentation related to the therapeutic purpose of services, and
- must not be a support or service that is experimental or aversive in nature.

Support and Service Coordination

- The provision of services to facilitate the all services and supports, both formal and informal, needed by the child and family to meet identified outcomes.
- Includes locating, managing, coordinating and monitoring all services and informal supports to assure that services are provided in accordance federal requirements and the child's assessed support needs.

Support and Service Coordination

Support and Service Coordination includes:

- establishing Medicaid financial and functional eligibility,
- accessing waiver supports and services; Medicaid State Plan services; medical, social, and educational assessments and services; and other supports, and
- identifying the supports necessary to insure the child's health and safety.

Support and Service Coordination

This service includes meeting all federal requirements for waiver funding:

- writing to individual service plan; coordinating and assuring the effective implementation of the support plan;
- assuring health and safety in the community; and
- assuring cost effective Medicaid service utilization.

Other Requirements

- Initial and Annual Level of Care Review
- Child must meet Financial Eligibility
- Child must have an Individual Service Plan
- Must be safe in the community
- Must be cost effective to serve the child in a community setting